

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02 OMB-01

SAM-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 091017Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0334

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 02183

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, GW, EEC

SUBJECT: SOYBEAN CAP

REF: BONN 475

1. DURING A CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, THE DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S OFFICE OF EC AFFAIRS LOECK SAID THAT THE FRG HAD DECIDED TO OPPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE EC PROGRAMS FOR SOYBEANS. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION, HE STATED THAT DECISION MEANS THAT THE FRG INITIAL POSITION IN THE UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING WOULD BE TO OPPOSE ANY EC

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SUBSIDY PAYMENTS FOR SOYBEAN PRODUCTION. LOECK

INDICATED THIS DECISION WAS MADE AT THE CABINET LEVEL AND THAT ACCORDINGLY, AGRICULTURAL MINISTER ERTEL WOULD HAVE TO SUPPORT THIS POSITION AT THE FORTHCOMING COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING.

2. LOECK EMPHASIZED THE FOREIGN POLICY ASPECTS OF THE CABINET DECISION. HE SAID HE PERSONALLY HAD WORKED HARD TO ACHIEVE THIS RESULT AND HE FELT THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARGUMENTS HAD CONTRIBUTED TO IT.

3. COMMENT: DURING THE CONVERSATION REPORTED IN REFTEL, STATE SECRETARY APEL SAID HE WOULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE SOYBEAN CAP ISSUE, TO SEE IT DIDN'T BECOME A FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEM. HE HAS OBVIOUSLY LIVED UP TO HIS WORD. HOWEVER MINAG CONTACTS INDICATED THAT THE SOYBEAN CAP ISSUE IS NOT SETTLED. THE STRENGTH OF THE FRG SOYBEAN POSITION CAN BE COMPROMISED BY ONE OR MORE ISSUES. THESE ISSUES INCLUDE THE DEGREE OF SUPPORT FROM OTHER COUNTRIES INCLUDING UK, NETHERLANDS, AND DENMARK; THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCEPTANCE OF A PROTEIN PACKAGE DEAL, INCLUDING OTHER VEGETABLE PROTEIN, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF COMPROMISE BY THE FRG TO GAIN HIGHER CEREAL PRICES THAN RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMISSION TO WHICH THE FRENCH HAVE BEEN RATHER COOL.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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